

Serial No. 10/736,650  
Docket No. SUPERCON 23  
Amendment B UNDER RULE 116  
and Telephone Interview Summary

### REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended to better clarify the invention, namely, that the working of the secondary billet through a series of reduction steps in step e) flattens the elements into thin ribbon within Aspect Ratio of greater than 5:1. As explained in the recent telephone interview with the Examiner, in Applicant's earlier '196 Patent, the aspect ratio of the filaments doesn't change on working. See column 8 lines 50-53:

"After sufficient reduction, the mesh elements form filaments, said filaments having the same cross-sectional aspect as the original mesh".

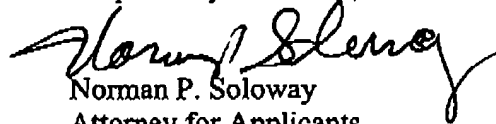
Applicant's claimed invention, on the other hand, works through a series of reduction steps to flatten the elements into thin ribbon with an aspect ratio of greater than 5:1. Thus, Applicant's independent claim 1 is fundamentally different than that taught by '196 Patent.

Claims 2-12 are directly or indirectly dependent on claim 1, and are allowable over '196 Patent for the reasons above adduced relative to claim 1, as well as for their own additional limitations.

The forgoing Amendment makes no claim changes that would require further search by the Examiner. Rather, the Amendment merely clarifies what was meant by the reduction step (e) already considered by the Examiner. Accordingly, entry of the forgoing Amendment, and allowance of the Application are respectfully requested.

In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account Number 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,



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**CERTIFICATE BY FACSIMILE**

I certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to the United States Patent Office, Attn. Examiner Donghai D. NGUYEN at number 571-273-8300 on

JUNE 30, 2006, at Tucson, Arizona.

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